

in 81 percent of patients for an average of eight months. Brandon died in 2010. Id.

(XI) LIDDY SHRIVER

In April 2002, Elizabeth Shriver was diagnosed with Ewing's sarcoma. <http://sarcomahelp.org/liddy.html>. She died January 15, 2004 at the age of 37 after the cancer metastasized to her right thigh, lungs, brain and abdomen. Id. Liddy was a computer scientist and sought to approach the cancer as "just another problem to solve reading as much as she could about cancer, various treatments, and the results of clinical trials. Id. More information can be reached by going to <http://sarcomahelp.org/index.html>.

(XI) LORRAINE HEIDKE MCCARTIN

Lorraine raised four children and has been battling a rare form of breast cancer since 2006. http://www.boston.com/business/health/care/articles/2011/01/05/testing_rules_force_patients_to_wait_for_new_drugs/?page=2 (last viewed May 21, 2012). In 2010 her hopes were buoyed when doctors said she was a good candidate to take a promising experimental drug called T-DM1 which had reduced patient's tumors with few side effects in clinical trials. Id. But before the treatments were to start under an expanded access program the drug's maker Roche shut down the program after the FDA refused to speed the approval process. Id. She is still alive, but must drive about 500 miles to get the treatment.

RECOGNIZING MASTER CHIEF PETTY OFFICER (RET.) JOHN R. BRINKHEIDE AND HIS MORE THAN 20 YEARS OF HONORABLE SERVICE TO THE U.S. NAVY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Master Chief Petty Officer (Ret.) John Robert Brinkheide for his more than 20 years of honorable and courageous service to the United States Navy, his subsequent 17 years of service as a contractor supporting the Department of Defense, and his continued service to our community. We are fortunate to have among us veterans with MCPO Brinkheide's sense of duty and continued commitment to public service.

MCPO Brinkheide enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1962 and completed electronics school the same year. From 1962 to 1964 he served aboard the USS *Semmes*, a ship he describes as truly unique, tied together by a crew committed to doing good. His service aboard the USS *Semmes* instilled in him his sense of professionalism and ethics that guided him throughout the entirety of his military and professional career. He attended advanced electronics school in 1965 upon leaving the USS *Semmes* and then served for three years in Vietnam aboard an in-river LST. After completing his tour in Vietnam, MCPO Brinkheide served aboard the USS *America* from 1969 to 1976 and was promoted to Master Chief Petty Officer. MCPO Brinkheide's last few years at sea were served aboard the USS *Nashville* as the Electronics Material Officer from 1976 to 1980. MCPO Brinkheide spent his last year with the Navy working on strategic communications for the Naval Electronic Systems Command performing oversight of electronic equipment acquisitions.

After retiring from the Navy in 1981, he began a long career as a contractor supporting the Department of Defense, specializing in systems acquisitions. Since retiring from the Navy, Mr. Brinkheide has actively worked to better his community through the Knights of Columbus and served as the Grand Knight of the John Paul I Council of Dale City, Virginia, from 2006 to 2007. MCPO Brinkheide also worked tirelessly for 24 years to help organize and implement the Prince William County Tree Trimming Day of Remembrance, a ceremony held to honor those who died in alcohol- and drug-related vehicle crashes.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise to join me in recognizing and thanking John R. Brinkheide for his steadfast and selfless service to our country and our community.

IRAN THREAT REDUCTION AND SYRIA HUMAN RIGHTS ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the conference agreement for H.R. 1905, the Iran Threat Reduction and Syria Human Rights Act of 2012, a bill of which I am a cosponsor. In addition to imposing sanctions on anyone found to be guilty of committing or contributing to the repression or abuse of the human rights of the Syrian people, this measure also continues the congressional efforts to apply pressure to the government of Iran for its nuclear enrichment activities.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday the president announced the application of new sanctions on the Iranian oil industry and on Chinese and Iraqi banks for helping Iran to circumvent the global sanctions regime. These sanctions are a part of an escalating series of penalties against Iran. In June, the U.S. imposed a round of sanctions targeting any foreign country that buys Iranian oil. Then, in early July, the EU, a major market for Iranian oil, put in place a complete embargo of oil imports from the country.

Since the effort began, Iranian oil production has declined by a million barrels a day, its exports have fallen by about 50 percent and its currency has plunged more than 40 percent against the dollar. Today, the House meets to further tighten the sanctions on Iran's energy, shipping and insurance sectors. This package of sanctions will be the most comprehensive passed to date. Virtually all of Iran's energy, financial, and transportation sectors will be subject to U.S. sanctions and any company that does business in these sectors will run the risk of losing access to U.S. markets.

The economic sanctions imposed on Iran have succeeded in bringing the Iranians to the negotiating table. It remains to be seen whether the Iranians are simply engaged in stall-tactics or are willing to end their effort to produce weapons-grade nuclear material.

As President Obama has made clear, it is unacceptable for Iran to develop a nuclear weapon. The U.N. Security Council has passed numerous resolutions demanding that Iran comply with the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and suspend its nuclear enrichment activities. The IAEA has repeatedly found Iran to be in violation of the U.N. resolutions.

A nuclear-armed Iran would pose a grave threat to the State of Israel, a country the President of Iran has stated should "be wiped off the map." A nuclear Iran could also trigger a nuclear-arms race in the Middle East that would further destabilize an already volatile region. It is in the national security interests of the United States to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons.

By most accounts, the sanctions passed by Congress have ratcheted up pressure on the Iranian government. But Iran continues to increase its stockpile of enriched uranium. This bi-partisan measure is necessary to give the President additional tools to penalize the Iranian regime for its continual refusal to heed the objections of the international community.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in support of this conference agreement.

VIETNAM'S CONTINUING ABUSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the record several months' worth of correspondence with the State Department regarding Vietnam's deplorable human rights and religious freedom record.

The correspondence includes a recent letter signed by three other members and myself calling for the removal of David Shear, U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam, for his failure to advocate for basic human rights and religious freedom in Vietnam while conditions are getting worse.

The U.S. must ensure that human rights and religious freedom are at the forefront of bilateral relations with Vietnam and the American embassy must be an island of freedom.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, May 15, 2012.

Hon. DAVID SHEAR,
U.S. Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, U.S. Department of State, C Street, NW, Washington, DC.

DEAR AMBASSADOR SHEAR: We write today to express our concern over the arrest and detention of a U.S. citizen, Dr. Nguyen Quoc Quan, by Vietnamese authorities on April 17, 2012. Further, we write to express our concern that you, as U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam, have not yet visited the U.S. citizen and democracy activist, who has been imprisoned for nearly one month on politically motivated charges.

During a hearing convened by the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission today, Dr. Nguyen's wife, Mrs. Mai Huong Ngo, provided emotional testimony about her husband's ongoing detention. It was shocking to hear that no one from the U.S. Embassy has reached out to Mrs. Ngo regarding the detention of her husband. We urge you to personally contact both Dr. Nguyen and Mrs. Ngo to show solidarity with and concern for two American citizens.

In addition, if Mrs. Ngo decides to go to Vietnam and attempt to see her husband, we request that you ensure her safety by personally meeting her at the airport and escorting her to the embassy and the jail where Dr. Nguyen is being held so that she does not meet the same fate as her husband.

If the U.S. Embassy does not stand with Dr. Nguyen Quoc Quan then what assurances